GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:706
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2013
LAST MILE AGENTS OF CASH SUBSIDY SCHEME
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of last mile agents to be appointed across the country and details of commissions to be paid to them with regard to the direct transfer of cash subsidy being planned by the Government;

(b) whether the Government has completed a strategy to ensure a hassle free passage of the large volume of money from them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

Minister of State in Ministry of Finance SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA

(a), (b) & (c) Under "Swabhimaan- the Financial Inclusion Campaign" banking facilities have been provided to over 74,000 villages with population of 2000 and above, primarily through Business Correspondents Agents (BCAs). As per the report of RBI, banks had engaged 95,767 BCs as on 31.03.2012.

The "Swabhimaan" Campaign is now being extended to habitations with population of more than 1000 in North Eastern and hilly States and to other habitations which have crossed population of 2000 as per census 2011. About 45,000 such habitations have been identified for coverage under this extended "Swabhimaan" campaign.

In view of the rollout of Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme in the country, the Strategy for Financial Inclusion has been revised as the banking services would now be extended to the entire geographical area of the selected districts, as against coverage of specified villages earlier.